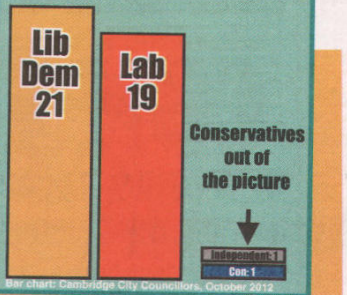


THE CAMBRIDGE HERALD

Autumn 2012 Edition

DELIVERED BY VOLUNTEERS FOR FREE TO THOUSANDS OF HOMES ACROSS CAMBRIDGE - PAID FOR BY DONATIONS - AT NO COST TO LOCAL TAXPAYERS

The choice in Cambridge:
Lib Dem or Labour



Lib Dems to Oppose Tory Welfare Cut Plans



Update on the push to save city pubs



Shouldn't everyone play by the same rules on tax?

Rupert Moss-Eccardt: My plans would cut crime

Lib Dem Police & Crime Commissioner candidate explains how his plans are radically different from anything else on offer.



Lib Dems can cut crime more effectively than the other parties, who are more interested in headlines than real results.

That's my pitch as the Lib Dem candidate for the Police and Crime Commissioner role, which is being contested on 15th November.

I would cut crime by following an evidence-based approach that puts extra resources into preventing first-time offenders going on to re-offend, and helping newly-released prisoners who want to 'go straight' stay out of trouble.

In addition, police would prioritise tackling crime committed by offenders just released from prison who don't want to give up their life of crime.

Working with first-time offenders is key to cutting crime. If you can get people of any age who commit their first minor crime to realise the effect of their actions, you will turn more people away from crime for good.

Research shows this works, if it is done by uniformed police officers - not in prison or by social workers.

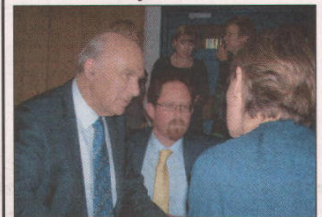
Rupert Moss-Eccardt

Cable visits to boost Cambridge business

At the start of October, Vince Cable, the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, came to Cambridge to find out how local businesses are coping with ongoing economic turbulence.

Dr Cable's visit came after he announced a £1bn government investment into a business bank to help small and medium firms access the funds they need. The bank could lead to £10bn being made available for businesses if additional capital can be raised.

"I'm delighted that Vince Cable made time to visit Cambridge to listen and explain more about what the government can do to help small and medium firms," said Queen Edith's activist Amanda Taylor.



In listening mode: Vince Cable visited Cambridge

Unemployment Drops

Latest figures show the jobless rate in Cambridge continuing to fall since the general election.

The BBC recently highlighted Cambridge as having "the lowest unemployment rate of any City in the UK."



Rupert Moss-Eccardt and Cambridge MP Julian Huppert discuss Lib Dem proposals for cutting crime

Only Rupert Moss-Eccardt, an IT consultant in policing and security, can beat the Conservatives' second choice candidate from Luton to be our first Police & Crime Commissioner.

"Labour's draconian approach to policing failed and the Tories' is no better," said Cambridge Lib Dem MP Julian Huppert. "I hope everyone who believes in a tested, evidence-based approach to tackling crime will support Rupert on November 15th."

THE CAMBRIDGE HERALD

COMMENT

We need new a approach to tackling re-offending to cut crime

Figures which show that as many as 90% of offences are committed by people with previous criminal records point to the inevitable conclusion that current measures to combat re-offending are not working.

The new Police and Crime Commissioners will be able to set some of the priorities in tackling re-offending. Only the Lib Dem proposals for greater use of community justice panels, as well as other restorative justice measures, offer a sensible alternative to the failed methods used by the succession of Labour and Conservative governments of the past.

Lib Dem Rupert Moss-Eccardt deserves the chance to put that new thinking into practice here in Cambridgeshire.

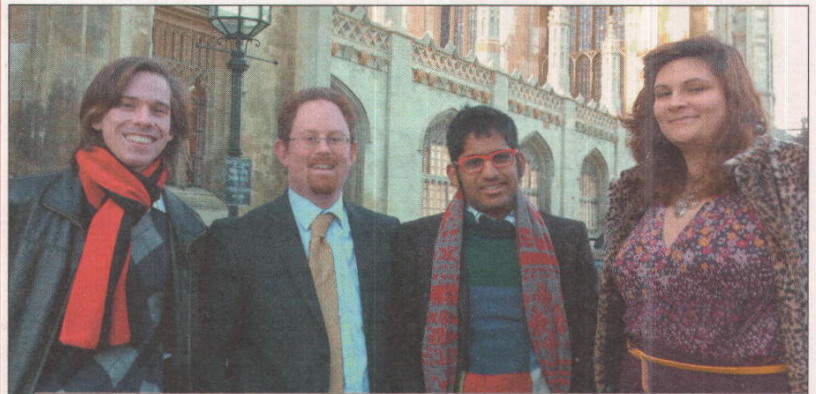
Improving disability access would be a fitting Paralympic legacy

The Olympics and Paralympics inspired us all, but it is vital that councils use their influence to create a truly lasting legacy.

It is not good enough that those with mobility problems cannot walk safely on our pavements, or that the Conservatives cut the "city shuttle" bus so many relied on.

The wide-ranging review of accessibility issues led by Lib Dems is a welcome first step.

Lib Dems to oppose Conservatives' welfare cuts



Cambridge Lib Dem MP, Julian Huppert, has reassured young people that proposals to cut housing benefit for under-25s are Conservative policy only

The Liberal Democrats will oppose Conservative plans to cut the welfare budget by £10 billion, calling instead for the wealthiest to pay their fair share.

Julian Huppert, the Lib Dem MP for Cambridge, said: "Many Cambridge residents will have shared my astonishment at the Tories' recent suggestion to cut £10 bn from welfare before they even started to think about getting the wealthiest to pay more tax.

"I believe that the burden of austerity must be shared fairly."

Clegg rejects Tory cuts

Asked about the prospect of further cuts recently, Nick Clegg said: "The idea that we're just going to scoop out £10bn from welfare, which will inevitably hit the poorest, before asking anything of the wealthiest - no. Flatly no."

Housing benefit cut "something the Tories would do if they governed alone"

The Lib Dems also reassured younger people that proposals to cut housing benefit for those under 25 were not Coalition policy.

"Cutting housing benefit for under-25s is something the Tories would want to do if they governed alone," said Julian Huppert.

"It would be wonderful if every young person had a supportive, loving family. In reality, many young people do not live independently through choice, but because they have no other options.

"Depriving these people of somewhere to live is a dangerous idea. I am proud that Liberal Democrats are standing firm against these proposals."

Fighting for disability access across the County



Belinda Brooks-Gordon helps Ian Howell to negotiate the uneven pavements he must face to get to his local shop

Belinda Brooks-Gordon, Lib Dem County Councillor for Castle ward, is campaigning to help a disabled local resident who is worried about going out alone in case he falls out of his wheelchair.

Ian Howell, who suffers from Cerebral Palsy, moved into the NIAB development in Huntingdon Road almost two years ago, but is concerned that work has been left unfinished.

Ian said: "It's so frustrating. I can't take a straight route to the shop because of the uneven pavements and unfinished roads. I use up a lot of my energy taking a longer route."

Belinda said: "The developers should have done everything possible to make it easy and safe for disabled people to get around, not leaving them to negotiate dangerous hazards just to make a short journey to the shops."

Lib Dems at Shire Hall are leading a a county-wide disability access review. The wide-ranging review will be supported by the disability charity The Papworth Trust.

£100m at stake in Guided Busway court case



Lib Dem Sarah Whitebread criticised the Conservatives' Guided Busway scheme, which Labour supported

Figures unearthed by the Lib Dem opposition at Shire Hall show that over £100 million of local taxpayers' money is at risk in the Guided Busway court case.

"The Conservatives promised not to spend one penny of local taxpayers' money on the Busway, but now we learn that £100 million of our money is at stake in court," said City Centre Lib Dem councillor Sarah Whitebread.

"If the Tories lose only a part of the case, they will have to increase council tax or make further cuts to services."

Apprenticeship numbers rise

The number of people starting an apprenticeship has risen again in 2011/12, recent figures show.

Just over half a million new apprentices started a course last year. In Cambridgeshire, there has been a 92% increase since 2009/10.

"The Lib Dems are rightly proud that apprentice numbers in our city have doubled under the Coalition," said Lucy Nethsingha, Lib Dem County Councillor for Newnham.

"The Lib Dems have made getting young people earning or learning one of the key goals of the Coalition. I'm glad efforts to promote apprenticeships are working."

Living Wage Gets Closer

In October, Cambridge City Council is to vote on a Lib Dem motion calling for the Living Wage of £7.20 an hour to be given to all Council staff.

"I fully support the City Council's efforts to ensure staff get the Living Wage," said Cambridge MP Julian Huppert.

"Huppert's Law": update on push to save city pubs

Julian Huppert's petition in support of his Private Member's Bill, aimed to help pubs stay open, received a tremendous level of support from across Cambridge.

"I am hoping that the relevant ministers will take note of the hundreds of people from across the city who have signed the petition," said Trumpington & Newtown County Councillor Caroline Shephard (pictured below, left).

"The Bill would greatly help our local campaigns to save pubs like The Flying Pig from closure."



The Trumpington Lib Dem team takes a brief break from campaigning by visiting one of the city's many pubs

Future of Chesterton's New School Debated



East Chesterton Councillors Ian Manning and Susannah Kerr are asking for residents' views

After years of Lib Dem campaigning for more school places in East Chesterton, the County Council appears to have finally realised there is a shortfall. Shire Hall bosses have given the green light for a new primary school to be opened on the site of the old school on Green End Road.

Unfortunately, Tory education policy means that any new school that can be opened can only be a 'Free School' or an 'Academy', outside local Council control.

"We're obviously concerned that this could have a negative impact on The Shirley, our existing - and excellent - local primary school," said Ian Manning, Lib Dem county councillor for East Chesterton.

"The Shirley will be independent of any

new school and will still be run by the Council. We must make sure we do everything to minimise disruption to it."

Organisations interested in running the new school have until 13th December to signal their interest. Bids will be assessed by a panel of local councillors, including Cllr Manning, who will make a recommendation to the County (subject to the final decision by the Secretary of State).

The school should open by Sept. 2013.

Lib Dems secure cap on train fare rises

Cambridge's rail campaigners have welcomed the news that rail prices are set to be capped at 1% above inflation, rather than the 3% above as previously intended.

"Since the Labour Government first introduced above-inflation rail fare rises in 2003, the story has been the same every year: higher prices for increasingly overcrowded services," explained Cambridge Lib Dem MP Julian Huppert.

"If the rise in passenger numbers is to continue, we have to make rail travel attractive and affordable. This is clearly a step in the right direction, though I will continue to press for rail fares to be reduced in real terms," added Julian.

Find out the latest news on this story at:
www.eastchestertonfocus.org.uk

Labour "record" vs Lib Dem record

Labour "record"	TAXES	Lib Dem record
Scrapped the 10p tax rate, hitting low income workers X Kept top rate of tax at 40p for all but 35 days in 13 years in power X Failed to clamp down on tax avoidance and tax evasion X	✓ Cut taxes by £550 a year (so far) by raising the income tax threshold ✓ Raised Capital Gains tax and calling for wealth taxes ✓ Investing funds into measures to tackle tax avoidance and evasion	
Insulted pensioners with a 75p pension rise X Failed to deal with growing public sector pensions shortfall X Raided private pension funds by abolishing pension tax relief X	✓ Ensured pensioners got highest ever increase of £500 a year ✓ Restored the earnings link through the 'triple lock' ✓ Securing simpler, higher pensions for all workers	
Devalued skills training through arbitrary target of 50% attending Uni X Allowed youth unemployment to rise by 40% between 1997 and 2010 X	✓ Delivered 60% more apprenticeships ✓ Investing £1bn to help young people earn or learn	
Pledged not to introduce fees in 1997 or raise them in 2001; won both elections and broke their pledges X Commissioned Browne Review in 2010, which recommended uncapped fees X	✓ Didn't win 2010 election, but made Browne proposals as fair as possible ✓ Cambridge's Lib Dem MP Julian Huppert voted against the fees rise	
Spent 13 years cosying up to the banks and the Murdochs X In the pocket of Trade Unions, which provide vast portion of the Labour Party's funding X	✓ Repeatedly warned about the danger of over-reliance on financial services ✓ Stood up to the Murdochs and ensured Leveson Inquiry took place ✓ Not in anyone's pockets - rely on individual donations and volunteers	

Wheel comes off County waste crusher

Yet another Conservative County Council project went badly wrong when the wheel of the county's newest recycling plant came off.

Up to 450 tonnes a day of recyclable waste now ends up going to landfill.

The crusher was built by the company behind the guided busway scheme.

Leader of the Lib Dem opposition Kilian Bourke (pictured) said: "this can only cement the Tories' reputation for incompetence, following their disastrous handling of the busway."

"The wheels seem to come off every big contract these Conservatives touch."



Making the super rich pay their fair share at last

For too long in Britain there's been two sets of rules on tax - one for the richest and another for average workers and families.

Labour allowed the super rich and the banks to dodge their taxes for thirteen years.

Many right-wing Conservatives actually think that the richest pay too much!

Only the Liberal Democrats will make the super-rich pay their fair share. We are fighting for a new wealth tax and a mansion tax on houses worth more than £2million.



The Lib Dems want to make everyone play by the same rules on tax.

[f/fairertax](#) [@fairertax](#) www.fairertax.org

Lib Dem action on fairer tax

- ✓ Capital Gains Tax increased from 18% to 28% to stop richest dodging their fair share
- ✓ Tough new measures to crack down on tax avoidance
- ✓ New tax on house sales worth over £2million
- ✓ Income tax cut for average workers - £45 a month back in your pocket from April

Back the campaign for fairer tax

I/we back Julian Huppert's call for a new wealth tax to make the super rich pay their fair share.

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

Tel _____ Mobile _____

I am a Lib Dem supporter ☐

I would like to vote by post in future elections ☐

I want more information about the Liberal Democrats ☐

The Lib Dems and their elected representatives may use the information you provide to contact you about issues you may find of interest. Some of these contacts may be automated. You can update our records or opt out of some or all contacts at any time by contacting us.



Cambridge Liberal Democrats
www.cambridgelibdems.org.uk

Return to: Fairer Taxes Campaign, Freepost, 16 Signet Court, Cambridge CB5 8LA

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